

The following figure shows the department base year and budgeted biennium goals and performance measures that are associated with the proposed 2009 biennium HB 2 budget.

DNRC Water Resource Division		
Measurable Objectives for the 2009 Biennium		
Goal	Measurable Objectives	Current status of Measures
Maintain and improve a centralized water right records system	Final updates to the NRIS water right query will be implemented.	Current development to the NRIS water right query will improve access by public. Continuing to convert records to optical imaging will allow water right files to be viewable on the NRIS site. Continue enhancements as identified by public input.
	An additional 15 - 20,000 water right files will be scanned reducing the backlog of files to convert to imagery to 315,000.	Conversion of 15,000 water right files is completed and available on the NRIS query site for viewing. Continue to convert records to optical imaging.
	Process 5,000 - 8,000 Ownership Updates.	84,000 water right owner records were updated since 2006 HB22 fee billing. Continue to process 5,000-8,000 ownership updates annually.
Provide certainty and stability among pre-1973 water users and protect existing water rights from adverse effects	Meet or exceed claim examination benchmarks. An additional 5,000 claims is required to meet the December 2008 benchmark. Will examine a total of an additional 8,000 - 10,000 claims.	The first biennium benchmark for claim examination was 9,000 claims: 14,000 claims were examined. Continue to meet or exceed legislative mandates
	Train Water Court staff in producing enforcement indexes from water right database for use by water commissioners.	Database enhancements are being completed to produce water commissioner indexes.

Provide opportunities for new water users and economic development	<p>Continue to make correct and complete determinations on new applications within 30 days of receipt.</p> <p>Hearing orders on applications with objections will be issued on average within 45 days of hearing.</p>	<p>Rules adopted 2005 provide for better applications being received. Work load more equitably dispersed among regional office to expedite processing and decision making. Adopt additional rules to clarify several water right processes and new legislation. An additional hearing examiner hired to expedite the hearings case load.</p>
Reduce litigation and resolve conflict where policy questions remain in the water use laws.	<p>Provide clear legal interpretation of Montana water use law.</p> <p>Collaborate with interest groups on a continual basis to encourage discussion of alternatives.</p>	<p>Continue to provide staff with clear procedures and policy.</p> <p>Completed major workgroup session on surface and groundwater interaction. Initial meeting set on new issue of water banking/stream augmentation.</p>
Operate and maintain DNRC and FWP-owned dams in a way that protects lives and property and rehabilitate DNRC-owned water projects and assist in development of other water resources infrastructure.	<p>Maintain operating permits for 22 DNRC and 3 DFWP high-hazard dams to ensure compliance with the Montana Dam Safety Act.</p> <p>Annually update all Operation & Maintenance (O&M) and Emergency Action Plans (EAP) for all DNRC-owned high-hazard structures.</p> <p>Manage over 1900 water marketing contracts for 21 water users associations</p> <p>Operate the Broadwater Hydroelectric Power Project to maximize net revenues and comply with FERC requirements.</p> <p>Continue state water project dam rehabilitation planning and construction.</p>	<p>Three Operating Permit Inspections are scheduled for 2007, two for 2008 and four for 2009. Three were completed in 2006. Dam instrumentation and monitoring ongoing.</p> <p>O&Ms and EAPs updated annually.</p> <p>Water marketing contracts - Ongoing</p> <p>Hydroelectric Power Project's operating availability for 2006 was 98%. Scheduled to maintain 97% or higher operating rate for the 2009 biennium.</p> <p>Dam projects for 2007 through 2009: Ongoing: Frenchmans Feasibility, Martinsdale Intake</p>

		<p>Structure, Ruby Feasibility and alternative evaluation, Painted Rocks Gate Feasibility and Evaluation, Tongue River Emergency Spillway Panel repairs</p> <p>Completed: Middle Creek emergency repairs, Ackley Lake Monitoring and Feasibility, Painted Rocks Gate Refurbishment and Lifting Hoist Improvements, North Fork of the Smith Spillway Replacement; Toston-Broadwater Bridge Replacement.</p> <p>Dam Projects scheduled 2009 biennium: Cataract Feasibility Study; Ackley Lake Design / Construction; Deadmans Basin Alternative Evaluation; Middle Creek instrumentation.</p>
	Conduct at least one canal rehabilitation project per legislative cycle	<p>Canal projects completed 2006 – 2007: Deadman's Basin - Emergency repairs/ canal lining; Designed and replaced 2 wasteway structures. Martinsdale – Design and repairs to 3 drop structures. Nilan – Smith Canal maintenance and repairs. Nevada Creek – GPS surveys for GIS.</p> <p>Canal projects scheduled for 2009 biennium: East Fork Rock Creek Siphon replacement; Smith Canal slope stability / lining repairs; Deadman's Basin canal lining.</p>
	Provide engineering and technical support for DFWP reservoirs and dams	DFWP Engineering Support – Ongoing

<p>Identify, prioritize, and transfer selected projects to reduce state administration and management liabilities</p>	<p>Prioritize projects for transfer by 2010.</p>	<p>Inactive projects have been previously identified and listed for transfer.</p> <p>Fitzpatrick Ranch – Transfer to Powell County Museum in winter February 2007.</p> <p>Valentine project – scheduled for appraisal and sale summer 2007.</p> <p>Other transfer work ongoing as staffing allows.</p>
<p>Provide citizens, governments, and local watershed groups with the information needed to make informed water resource allocation and management decisions.</p>	<p>Inventory Montana's water resources by collecting and compiling hydrologic data and GIS-based water resources information..</p> <p>Provide technical information during the review process for surface water and groundwater water rights applications and change in use applications to help identify potential impacts to other water users.</p> <p>Evaluate links between surface and groundwater to allow for the sound conjunctive use and management of these resources.</p> <p>Work with water users; watershed groups; and other local, state and federal government agencies to access and use the above and other sources of information to make informed decisions on preventing and resolving water use conflicts, improving basin-wide water management, cumulative impact assessments on river channels and water</p>	<p>We are overseeing and funding the state wide surface flow gaging program, and are collecting and compiling additional hydrologic and spatial data for a number of water short basins.</p> <p>Will continue to conduct technical assessments of approximately 90 complex water right applications for new uses and changes in use.</p> <p>Will continue to analyze a large number of water right applications that could impact either surface water or groundwater supplies and existing water rights</p> <p>Will continue to support about 15 different watershed groups within the Missouri, Clark Fork, Flathead and Yellowstone River basins solve water related problems.</p>

	<p>uses, and developing and implementing drought management plans in a timely and professional manner.</p> <p>Provide technical and administrative support to the Governor's office and water users in the Milk River basin in seeking federal authorization and federal agency support to rehabilitate the St. Mary Diversion and Canal by 2009.</p> <p>Provide water resources education and training opportunities for water commissioners, water users, educators, and citizens.</p>	<p>Will continue to provide staff support to the Milk River Working Group to rehabilitate the St. Mary canal and diversions works. This support includes research, grant writing, working with native American Tribes and overseeing all activities of the working group.</p> <p>The MT Watercourse expects to provide up to 20 water education and training programs across the state annually and the WMB will continue to hold its annual water commissioner training.</p>
Protect Montana's water from external threats.	<p>Persuade the International Joint Commission to revise its 1921 Order and its Administrative Procedures in a way that allows Montana water users to divert their full share of St. Mary River flows as specified by the Boundary Water Treaty of 1909.</p> <p>Work with Flathead Basin residents, and the Canadian and British Columbia Governments to protect the water resources of the North Fork of the Flathead River in Montana from potential impacts associated with the upstream coal mines and coal bed methane development that British Columbia is considering.</p> <p>Develop a technical foundation and legal strategy for implementing the Yellowstone River Compact.</p>	<p>The first phase was completed and we are waiting for the IJC decision on modifications to the existing Administrative Procedures that should allow Montana to use more of its apportioned share of water.</p> <p>Ongoing negotiations on an Action Plan to protect Montana's interest along our shared border will continue. Montana will continue to participate in the B.C. regulatory process on assessing the impacts of the proposed Cline coal proposal.</p> <p>Will be spending considerable effort developing the technical information to support litigation and negotiation with Wyoming</p>

	<p>Determine whether Columbia River system operations and downstream water development are affecting flows, reservoir levels, and associated resources in Montana.</p> <p>Protect Montana's interests in the operations of the Missouri River system with respect to impacts on Fort Peck Reservoir and the Missouri River downstream of the dam.</p>	<p>Will continue to work with the USBR to initiate water marketing from Hungry Horse Reservoir.</p> <p>Will continue to provide comments on the annual operation plan for Missouri River system and to help the new Missouri River Assoc. of States and Tribes become successful.</p>
Assure that dams in Montana are constructed, operated, and maintained properly without undue danger to downstream inhabitants and property yet balancing the crucial role in maintaining the vitality of Montana's economy.	<p>Administer a permit program for high hazard dams by evaluating, granting or denying, within 60 days, applications for construction or major repair of a high hazard dam, granting, renewing or denying, within 90 days, applications for an operation permit of a high hazard dam.</p> <p>Improve communication between all dam owners (state water users, private dam owners)</p>	<p>All applications were processed within the time frames.</p> <p>Partner with the nonprofit organization, Montana Association of Dam and Canal Systems, by providing training at their annual conferences and jointly issue newsletters about dam safety to the organization</p>
Promote and coordinate the management and regulation of flood prone lands and waters in a manner consistent with sound land and water use management practices that will prevent and alleviate flooding threats to life and health and reduce private and public economic losses.	<p>Develop and provide maps and information of flood hazard areas.</p> <p>Provide education and outreach to public and local communities on floodplain management.</p>	<p>Floodplain maps are being completed for upper East Gallatin near Bozeman and upper Yellowstone south of Livingston.</p> <p>Continue with annual work planning and an agreement with FEMA to modernize remaining existing floodplain maps utilizing federal funds.</p> <p>Yearly apply for federal grant awards thru the Community Assistance Program for the National Flood Insurance Program to supplement state</p>

		funds to provide education and outreach to local floodplain administrators and general public.
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